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# Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 29 | Min 20 | Humidity 70% Scattered Thunderstorms Sensex 65,945 | Nifty 19,664 | Gold 58,548 | Silver 71,908 | Dollar 83.25 | Euro 88.19 | GBP 101.43

**BBMP had planned to build elevated corridor between Minerva and Hudson circles back in 2009. Since then as the plan remained on paper, cost of building the flyover has gone up by Rs 135 crore**

# 14 YEARS & COUNTING

## Motorists say corridor is needed as it will facilitate two-way traffic on JC Road

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The much-publicised, awaited, and delayed elevated corridor between Minerva Circle and Hudson Circle is yet to become a reality even after 14 years. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had proposed to construct a steel flyover, popularly known as JC Road flyover in 2009, at an estimated cost of Rs 86 crore.

Later, the proposal of steel flyover was cancelled due to opposition from various sections of society. The BBMP then proposed to construct a concrete flyover instead of a steel one more than a decade ago at an estimated cost of Rs 213 crore but the construction of the flyover remained on paper even after a decade.

According to the Urban Development Department's Annual Report for the year 2022-23, the cost of the 2.90-km elevated corridor project is estimated to be Rs 348 crore, an increase of Rs 135 crore. The annual report states that the elevated corridor will facilitate signal free traffic for a total of seven junctions between Minerva Circle and Hudson Circle. The report claimed that the detailed project report (DPR) has been prepared and the tender process has been approved by the Technical Advisory Committee of the BBMP. It is proposed to complete the construction of the elevated corridor in nine months but the tender process is yet to begin till date. The annual report of the Urban Development

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

**"The proposal to construct the flyover has been pending for quite a long time. The elevated corridor will be a boon for motorists who have to commute long distances to reach Minerva Circle or South Bengaluru from Hudson Circle**

– Mahalingam S, auto rickshaw driver

# Pedal pushers

Cyclists want tech parks, companies to help enhance infra to make this healthy form of commute easier

| Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With metro usage gaining traction among IT company employees, cyclists also want companies to promote cycling as a mode of work commute. They envisage more cycling infrastructure such as parking stands, cycling tracks and public bicycle-sharing systems within tech parks.

Recently, an IT company announced the purchase and distribution of metro cards to its employees. The company would pay for the top-up of the cards as per requirement. BMRCL is also planning to issue smart cards in bulk to interested companies. With so much interest being generated about sustainable modes of transport, cyclists commuting to work want the authorities to focus on making the commute smoother.

A regular work-commuting cyclist told BM that they have been working with the Bicycle Mayor and DULT to implement cycling lanes from Bagmane Tech Park to the nearest Metro station. "We are also trying to build infra with cycling companies. Employees can keep the cycle parked at metro stations and the next day commute back to work. Most of these tech parks are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

## 3 THINGS TO DO

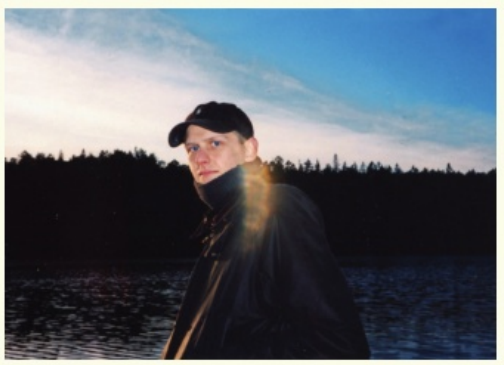
### 01 Crafts at best

Get the chance to attend the 31st edition of Vastrabharana, presented by the Crafts Council of Karnataka. This annual exhibition features various handcrafted textiles and jewellery. This year's theme is inspired by the Indian subcontinent's history of producing spices, which were traded along the Silk Route. **Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath; When: September 28-October 2; 10 am to 7:30 pm**

### 02 Get out and run

Shriram Properties in association with The Bengaluru Marathon is conducting a 5-km 'Tails & Trails'. If you are a passionate runner then grab the opportunity to participate in this woof-friendly run. You can also bring your beloved pets with you. **Where: Shriram Pristine Estates in Doddaballapura Main Road**
**When: Saturday, September 30; 6:30 am**

### 03 Outstanding show



Don't miss the chance to attend a performance by Anthony Linell this September at one of the most popular venues in the city. Known for dispensing with mechanisms of attention on all fronts, he applies the strategies of techno's models to apprehend his singular vision.
**Where: Indiranagar Social**
**When: Saturday, September 30; 8 pm onwards**

# How life goes on, in partial bandh mode

## Bandh called by farmers' organisations receives limited response, brace for statewide bandh announced by Kannada Okkuta this Friday

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PICS:KAUSHIK JN

**1. A significant number of people refrained from venturing out on Tuesday due to bandh in the city; 2. The BMTC buses experienced a noticeable decrease in ridership; 3. citizens protesting in city on Tuesday; 4. several activists were also apprehended as they gathered to stage a protest, leaders of the farmers and Kannada activists criticised the government for allegedly resorting to the use of police force to suppress the protests**

The first leg of the bandh called by various organisations in protest of the Cauvery River water dispute received only a partial response on Tuesday, as most public services continued to operate normally. Farmers and Kannada organisations, supported by the opposition BJP and JD (S), had called for a shutdown in opposition to the release of Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu. While normal life in the city was affected to some extent, a significant number of people refrained from venturing out.

The 'Karnataka Jala Samrakshana Samiti,' an umbrella organisation representing farmers' associations and other groups led by farmer leader Kuruburu Shanthakumar, initiated the dawn-to-dusk (6 am to 6 pm) Bengaluru bandh. Shanthakumar and other leaders were detained by police at the Mysuru Bank Circle when they attempted to organise a protest march towards Town Hall. At Town Hall, several activists from Kannada organisations were also apprehended as they gathered to stage a protest. Leaders of the farmers and Kannada activists criticised the government for allegedly resorting to the use of police force to suppress the protests and the bandh.

Although cab services, autos, hotels, and restaurants continued to operate, drivers and hotel operators reported a significant drop in customers. The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) buses and Metro rail services also experienced a noticeable decrease in ridership. Most private companies, including those in the IT sector, instructed their employees to work from home. Some malls in the city decided to remain closed, and many shops and establishments were observed not operating as usual in the morning hours.

The second leg of the Bengaluru bandh has been proposed along with the statewide Karnataka bandh on September 29 by 'Kannada Okkuta,' an umbrella organisation for Kannada groups led by activist Vatal Nagaraj. They had chosen not to support Tuesday's bandh. As organisations have called for a Karnataka bandh on Friday, the 58th Annual Convocation of Bangalore University scheduled for that day has been postponed, and the next date will be announced soon. The inconvenience caused to the public/students in this regard is regretted, stated the University Registrar, Sheikh Latheef, in a press release.

### Dead rat in breakfast

In a shocking incident, a dead rat was discovered in the breakfast served to police personnel on security duty in Bengaluru during the bandh and protests related to the Cauvery water dispute in the state capital.

> **"A case will be registered against the hotel owner. The matter came to light before anyone consumed the food** – Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Traffic Police

Joint Commissioner of Traffic Police Anucheth reported, "Today a dead rat was found in one of the breakfast packets provided to the police personnel assigned to duty during the ongoing Bengaluru bandh and protests over the Cauvery water dispute."

This incident took place in the morning when police officers on duty in the state capital were served breakfast from a nearby hotel. "The police personnel were understandably outraged after the dead rat was found in one of the rice meal packets," said the Joint Commissioner of Traffic Police. He instructed the Yeshwantpur police to investigate the private hotel that supplied the food to the personnel and issued a notice to the hotel owner regarding the issue. Anucheth stated, "A case will be registered against the hotel owner. Fortunately, the matter came to light before anyone consumed the food containing the dead rat."

# Anybody home? 'BBMP not responding to our pleas to fix bad roads'

**Tired of fixing waterlogged and potholed roads, traffic police reach out to Palike, but who's listening?**

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On Monday night, a food delivery executive was severely injured after he fell into a pothole. A netizen took to X to share details about the incident that took place in Doddanekundi Village Main Road.

"(A) food delivery worker suffered a severe knee injury after a fall caused by dangerous potholes. Who should be held accountable for such hazards on our roads?" he asked.

Several people commented that the civic agency, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, has to be held responsible for such accidents.

However, what is shocking is that it is not just the citizens who are at the receiving end of BBMP's apathy, apparently even traffic police are facing the same from the agency.

A senior police official in the traffic police department told BM that traffic police personnel have had several meetings with BBMP officials to address the issue of bad roads on important busy junctions of the city, but so far no action has been taken.

He added, "We are cleaning the nalas and canals from the last week to prevent water logging. And we are tired of coordinating with other authorities. The point is that some junctions in the city that are the busiest in the ward, need urgent intervention and we want the civic agency to fix the roads," he said.

On Monday, several accounts of the traffic police department also posted videos of "slow traffic movement due to bad road".

File photo of a traffic policeman trying to fix a broken road in Viveknagar

A picture posted by Halasuru gate traffic police station shows policemen trying to fix a pothole to clear the traffic. Similarly, the Whitefield division also posted a video of roads filled with potholes.

Reacting to this, Mayur, a resident of the city told BM, "The condition of Bengaluru roads has been a major concern for a long time and no one from BBMP seems to be bothered about it. We have had accidents and even deaths due to potholes and water logging yet the authorities don't seem to be concerned. The situation is so bad that traffic police are actively doing BBMP's work and warning citizens about bad roads."

Another citizen added that it is unfortunate to see traffic policemen fill potholes and clear drains. "These are no longer rare incidents, and have become a regular affair. BBMP invests in expensive pothole filling machines, but has no will to press them into use even in the central business district areas. Looks like they are waiting for a rebuke from the ministers," they said.

Beyond the call of duty

As traffic police personnel chip in to sort out infra woes, citizens wonder whether to praise this act or question civic agency's failures

BM had reported on September 22 about how across the city, it has become common for traffic policemen to provide quick fixes to damaged roads

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# Chroma road drowns again: Unwanted encore

## Severe rain causes flooding on Chroma service road, disrupting commute

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Heavy rainfall on Monday led to the flooding of the Chroma service road, resulting in a car getting stuck due to high water levels at the Chroma vent. Attempts to divert through the Panathur RUB intensified traffic congestion, causing significant commuter delays.

Chroma Road, an alternative route parallel to the Panathur main road, is crucial for reaching the outer ring road and easing traffic at Panathur RUB. However, this route often floods during rains, rendering it impassable. The Mahadevpura Task Force (MTF) suggests avoiding it during the rainy season and opting for it in drier months.

Commuters diverted to Panathur RUB because the flooded Chroma vent encountered heavy congestion. Traffic police alerted the situation on social media, and efforts were made on Tuesday to clear the floods by pumping water out with a motor.

Vishal Shetty from Panathur said, "With a short downpour, the road keeps getting flooded. There have been many instances wherein vehicles have got stuck in the water-logged area. This is how taxpayers suffer. The Panathur RUB is already in a bad state with the narrow S cross and the pending land acquisition issue for the road widening project. We see no developments happening, and we have been suffering daily."

> **"There have been many instances wherein vehicles have got stuck in the water-logged area. This is how taxpayers suffer**
> – Vishal Shetty, commuter

Another resident, Rajesh, said, "Every year, the situation is the same at a stretch. Now, the Chroma road will be closed for some time, and we will have to commute through Panathur, where we must be stuck in traffic for four hours together."

Bangalore Mirror
It's that sinking feeling again at Chroma Road
Safety concerns arise after near-miss incident at submerged vent

**BM Story on September 21 about safety concerns after a near-miss incident at submerged vent**

**Heavy rainfall on Monday flooded the Chroma service road, resulting in a car getting stuck due to high water levels at the Chroma vent**

Clement Jayakumar from Mahadevpura Task Force said, "This place earlier was a water vent, and a Rajkaluve was passing through that and later converted into the road, and people have started using it. It is a very low-lying area, and no measures can be taken to address the floods. During the rainy season, the road should be avoided. "

# Garbage hassles plague Tilak Nagar locals

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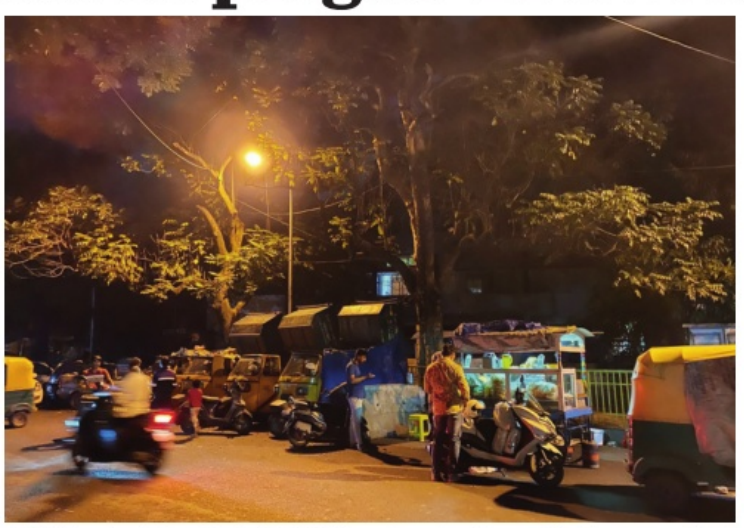
Residents and small business owners residing near the ESI hospital in Tilak Nagar have voiced grievances regarding the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) garbage vehicles halting on their street post garbage collection. This issue has led to unpleasant odours and other sanitary problems in the area.

A small business owner from the neighbourhood, who wished to stay anonymous, told Bangalore Mirror that this situation has been ongoing for the past six months, with the vehicles frequently halted on this stretch after their garbage collection rounds. "They used to stop near the police station previously but have moved to our area now," he said, adding that the vehicles are parked on the street after garbage collection duties by workers are completed. He said that, at times, the vehicles are not even unloaded of all the garbage collected, worsening the situation. "We put up a food stall in the area. The business has seen a significant downfall since the vehicles have begun to be parked in the vicinity. Family customers often go to other stalls to avoid the smell and are weary of sanitary issues that dwell due to the garbage," he explained.



**BBMP garbage trucks halting in the streets after collection cause foul odours and sanitation issues in Tilak Nagar upsetting residents**

While the issue has been raised with the BBMP, authorities have not paid heed to fixing the problem. In 2010, a similar situation led residents to file a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the High Court of Karnataka, requesting the BBMP and the police department to intervene and stop garbage trucks from being parked in one of the streets of Dollar Scheme layout in BTM. The court soon mandated the BBMP to take action within two months to resolve the issue. According to the Karnataka Municipal Corporations (KMC) Act, it is the responsibility of BBMP to provide civic amenities and ensure that garbage vehicles are not parked in residential areas.

## whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

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### Rusting clamp

**Ulsoor gate**

**A clamp affixed to a signpost on a traffic light pole near Anjaneya Swamy Circle in Halasuru Gate, is perilously close to collapsing due to extensive rusting.**

### Plant hindrance

**Lavelle Road**

**The overgrown climbing plant on the stretch next to Bangalore Club on Lavelle Road has made it impossible to walk on the footpath.**

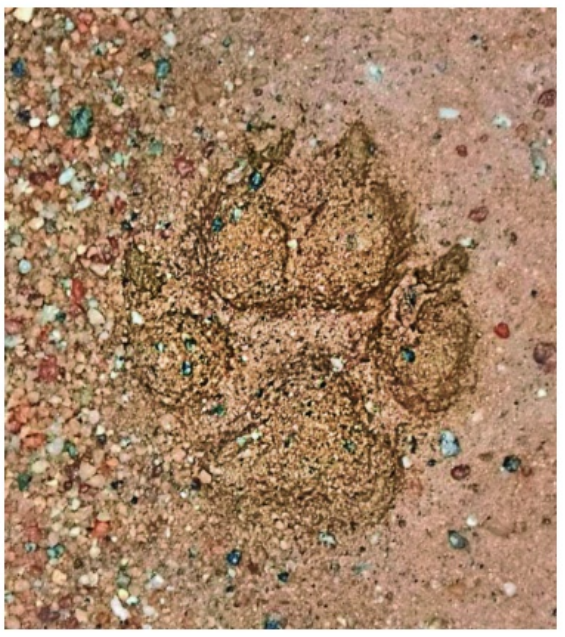
### Sanitation crisis

**KR Puram**

**The sanitation woes persist in the KR Puram market area, further aggravated by cows grazing on the roads. Despite the proximity of the BBMP and the police station, there is a lack of vigilance in addressing the issue.**

# Mark of the night prowler: Is it a leopard? Only a dog, say officials

## Forest Dept confirms pugmarks seen were that of dog, but unconvinced Avalahalli locals concerned about kids', pets' safety



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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Fear gripped residents in and around the Avalahalli area in Yelahanka after pugmarks, assumed to be that of a leopard, were sighted in the early hours of Tuesday. Locals say the pugmarks were spotted by a few morning walkers and since then have caused panic among the residents.

"I heard street dogs barking and howling late on Monday night. I stepped out of my house and found a dog sitting atop an under-construction building and braking relentlessly. Since it was dark, I decided to probe further the next morning. The moment I stepped out of my house in the morning, I saw these pugmarks as big as 8 cm," said Devangowda, an ex-CRPF official and a resident.

Locals say the animal might have strayed out of the Avalahalli forest patch, which is hardly a couple of kilometres away from the spot.

"The pugmarks can be seen all around MS Ramaiah Layout. We are very close to the Avalahalli forest patch and there are clusters of Nilgiri trees outside the forest area too. The size of the pugmarks suggests they are of a big wild animal. We got worried and informed the Forest Department," said Lakshminaraya, a resident of MS Ramaiah Layout.

After locals reached out to the Karnataka Forest Department, an official was deputed to examine the pugmark. The department informed BM that the pugmarks are most likely of a street dog.

"We deputed a forest official to the spot to verify pugmarks and it appears to be a dog. There are no leopards in the area. Although a leopard was sighted near the Rail Wheel Factory in Yelahanka a couple of years ago, it had moved away on its own. Since the pugmarks of street dogs and wild dogs are very similar, it is difficult to say with 100% certainty," said a Karnataka Forest Department official.

However, concerned residents say the department is trying to draw a veil over the issue and shying away from its responsibility. They allege the Forest Department official deputed for on-spot verification suggested the pugmarks are of a wild dog.

"We measured the pugmarks and they are around 8 centimetres in size. The size and nature of the marks indicate it was a wild animal. Moreover, the official who came to verify indicated that these were of a wild dogs. The higher officials are trying to cover up to avoid further investigation," said V Selvaraja, a resident of the area and chairman of Green Circle.

Many in the area said they are concerned about the safety of children and domesticated animals.

"The department should investigate the matter and confirm that the pugmarks are of street dogs. Who will be accountable if a child is attacked?

Bushes in the area have grown up to six feet tall and can provide perfect refuge to wild animals. Although residents do come together and try to clear the bushes, there is only so much we can do.

A couple of layouts in the area are still under BDA and are yet to be handed over to the panchayat. Thus nobody is taking care of it. There are no CCTV cameras either," added Selvaraja. **BMB**

> **"We measured the pugmarks and they are around 8 centimetres in size. The size and nature of the marks indicate it was a wild animal. Moreover, the official who came to verify indicated that these were of a wild dogs**
>
> –V Selvaraja, resident of the area

# 'Begin Metro ops between KR Puram, Baiyappanahalli'

Commuters of Metro have urged the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) to commence the operations between the 2.1km KR Puram-Baiyappanhalli section of the Purple line as it would be of convenience to passengers who wish to travel beyond Baiyappanahalli and not wait until the Kengeri-Challaghatta section receives approval.

The move comes after the Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety (CMRS) granted approval for passenger operations on this stretch. Currently, commuters are required to take feeder bus services provided by the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) to reach KR Puram from Baiyappanhalli.

BMRCL said that CMRS's approval is subject to certain conditions, and the official opening date will only be announced once these requirements are met. The inspection team led by AM Choudhary from CMRS recently conducted a comprehensive review of the KR Puram – Baiyappanhalli stretch, investigating the systems, viaducts, physical structures as well as the various amenities available in the Benniganahalli station. The same CMRS team is set to inspect the 2 km Kengeri-Challaghatta section on September 29. However, commuters speculate that the date for inspection will likely be postponed due to the proposed bandh on Friday to protest the release of Cauvery River water to Tamil Nadu, further delaying the process. BMRCL officials have said that the inauguration of both sections will happen simultaneously, and the final date will need to be coordinated with the union and state governments.

Sreejith, a resident took to Twitter (now X) and said, "CMRS has given the green signal for metro service from KR Puram – Baiyappanhalli stretch. Why can't the BMRCL start operations from tomorrow itself and officially inaugurate the entire line after getting clearance for Challaghatta?" **BMB**

ADVERTORIAL

# Understanding BPH: A Vital Guide for Men Over 50

For men over the age of 50, understanding Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) is crucial. Dr GR Manjunath (MBBS, MS (General Surgery), MCh (Urology), Consultant Urologist, Laser Laparoscopy & Transplant Surgeon (CH Citi Hospital, 25/91, 20th main road, 25/91, Chord road, second block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-10) explained that the prostate, a small gland in the male reproductive system, rests below the bladder and surrounds part of the urethra, the tube carrying urine from the bladder. "BPH, or the enlargement of the prostate, typically begins in a man's 40s, with most men experiencing issues after reaching their 50s. This non-cancerous growth results from an increase in prostate cell number or size, exerting pressure on the urethra and reducing urine flow. Cardinal symptoms include frequent daytime urination, nocturia (nighttime urination), difficulty in urination, and a feeling of incomplete bladder emptying."

These indicators serve as critical signals for men to seek medical evaluation and intervention. Dr. Manjunath underscores the urgency of addressing BPH, stressing that if left untreated, this condition can escalate into acute medical emergencies. Acute Urinary Retention and Chronic Urinary Retention, both stemming from untreated BPH, often necessitate hospitalisation. "The risk of encountering these complications intensifies as the prostate enlarges, making older men particularly susceptible. Therefore, any difficulty in urination or the persistence of urine in the bladder after attempting to avoid it may indicate the presence of BPH, warranting prompt medical attention. Fortunately, the landscape of BPH treatment has evolved significantly, with the widespread availability of cost-effective and safe medications coupled with advanced surgical techniques. These advancements have made the management of BPH accessible to a large population of patients across India and beyond", he said adding that timely diagnosis and intervention can significantly enhance the quality of life for men affected by this condition. "Widespread availability of cost-effective and safe medications, in addition to advanced surgical techniques has made the treatment of BPH very easy and accessible to lakhs of patients across the length and breadth of the country", Dr Manjunath added.

Dr. Manjunath

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## Taking stock of our wards

# Ward committees: Inactive, unheard

### Majority of ward committees dormant, BBMP apps fail to satisfy civic concerns

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Bengaluru residents, particularly those invested in civic matters, face an extended wait until the following year to voice concerns or highlight infrastructure-related issues to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). The majority of ward committees remain inactive, leaving residents with no recourse but to endure a frustrating silence, as they are unable to place trust in or rely upon the various apps introduced by the BBMP for escalating civic issues to the authorities' attention.

During the previous BBMP Council tenure, 198 ward committees were functioning in the city. However, in a significant development, the number of wards has been amplified to 225. Historically, the corporator of each respective ward presided over the ward committee meetings. Attended by residents, ward committee members, and representatives from various departments, these meetings were scheduled for the first Saturday of every month or any other convenient day. The inception of ward committee meetings dates back to 2018, marking them as crucial links between ward corporators and the local community.

With the BBMP term ending in September 2020, corporators stopped chairing ward committee meetings. The BBMP has appointed nodal officers for all ward committees. However, these nodal officers stopped chairing ward committee meetings when the model code of conduct came into force during State Assembly elections.

Some ward committee members and residents have expressed concern over the defunct ward committees. They expect the authorities to hold elections to the BBMP Council and restore ward committees as early as possible for the welfare of residents. It is learnt that the authorities concerned did not take measures to appoint ward committee members. The ward committees were dissolved on the eve of the State Assembly elections, and the authorities concerned did not take measures to revive ward committees by appointing members to the respective ward committees after the Assembly elections.

> **"Proper formal statutory committees can be formed only after BBMP elections under the chairmanship of the councillors.**
>
> –Kathyayini Chamaraj, CIVIC

"The ward committees that existed are not statutory, and they are ad hoc committees or informal committees under the nodal officer. Apart from officials, membership committee members are not notified through a notification or a gazette. So, anyone can walk in and walk out of the committee meetings. There is no accountability. Proper formal statutory committees can be formed only after BBMP elections under the chairmanship of the councillors. Only then can we demand accountability and transparency from them," says Kathyayini Chamaraj, Executive Trustee, CIVIC.

Expressing concern over the defunct ward committees, B R Chandran, a member of Halasuru Ward Committee, has said that he has been approaching the authorities concerned to conduct ward committee meetings but in vain.

Ramakant Nargund of the Community Task Force has alleged that existing ward committees are being controlled by local MLAs, which is against the norms. "I used to attend ward committee meetings. I was disappointed with the functioning of the ward committee. Members for the ward committee should be selected from those elected from area sabhas instead of the ward corporator or MLA selecting his followers or supporters as ward committee members. All officials must attend the ward committee meetings," said Ramakanth Nargund.

# Name-change odyssey: Bengaluru gears up for elections

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In a recent development, the Congress-led government officially announced the allocation of 225 wards for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). However, there were last-minute alterations to the names and designations of several wards. Notably, ward number 50, initially listed as Puneeth Rajkumar ward in the draft, saw a name change to Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar ward in the final version. Additionally, Nandini Layout underwent a renaming, now recognised as Dr. Puneeth Rajkumar ward.

Other notable changes include Byadrahalli, renamed Lingadheeranahalli, and Marappanahalli becoming Rajiv Nagar. Additionally, abbreviations were modified, with the HRBR layout transformed into HBR Layout and the KSFC layout ward renamed Subbaiah Palya. The new ward names now include Byrathi, formerly referred to as Bellatur, and Venkatreddy Nagar, previously known as Someshwara Nagar. Shantala Nagar has undergone a rebranding and is now known as Ashok Nagar.

On the other hand, some traditional names underwent alterations. Hanumant Nagar, a name steeped in history, has been updated to Gavi Gangadhareshwara Nagar, paying homage to one of the oldest temples. Basavanagudi has been renamed Dodda Ganapati, drawing inspiration from the Big Bull temple. Conversely, Girinagar has been rebranded as Swamy Vivekananda ward.

Sources suggest that this final notification marks the first step toward heading into the long-awaited elections. "We are expecting elections by year-end. When the BJP government was in power and deferring the BBMP elections, the Congress demanded early elections. With Congress in power, the hope is that the party may go for early polls. If the High Court permits, the government will announce the reservation quota. If the reservation list is announced, it will be the second step toward holding elections."

A political analyst added, "Another challenge is that Lok Sabha polls will be held next year. So, now the big question is whether the BBMP polls should be held before or after the Lok Sabha polls. Earlier, there were plans to hold BBMP elections before State elections. However, there was pressure from the MLA candidates to postpone the BBMP polls, as they would face a rebellion on their home turf over giving tickets before the Assembly elections; hence, the polls were deferred. Now, it is to be seen whether the polls will be held before or after the Lok Sabha polls."

> **The last minute alterations to the names of several wards are the first step toward heading into the elections.**

Devaraj D, a techie, said, "During the previous years when Bengaluru was having heavy rainfall with many areas being flooded, we felt the need for corporators who could be made accountable. Usually, it is easier to reach out to people's representatives than the officials. We hope for early BBMP polls and no more delay in the elections."

# CUET-UG from May 15 to 31

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The University Grants Commission (UGC) announced the schedule for three key entrance exams for the 2024–25 academic session on Tuesday. The Common University Entrance Test (CUET)-UG for admission to undergraduate courses is scheduled to be held from May 15 to 31, 2024. UGC Chairman M Jagadesh Kumar stated that results would be announced within three weeks of the last test. Additionally, CUET-PG will take place from March 11 to 28, and the National Eligibility Test (NET) is set to occur from June 10 to 21.

## CBSE cautions students

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has clarified that it has not partnered with any private publisher to provide access to its sample papers for classes 10 and 12. The board has advised students not to be misled by such claims.

The board's clarification comes in response to reports that the CBSE has collaborated with Educart for its sample papers for board exams, which can be accessed for a fee. According to the board's advisory, "As per NEP 2020 recommendations, the board had initiated competency-focused education and assessment in its affiliated schools and has recently released practice papers in all major subjects in classes 10 and 12. These practice papers have been developed to facilitate the students in solving more application-based questions of higher-order thinking skills and enhance their conceptual understanding of topics."

However, the board has noticed that schools and students are being directed to access the CBSE practice papers from certain private publishers' websites. The CBSE has emphasised that these sample papers should be obtained from the official website, cbseacademic.nic.in, and not purchased from private publishers.

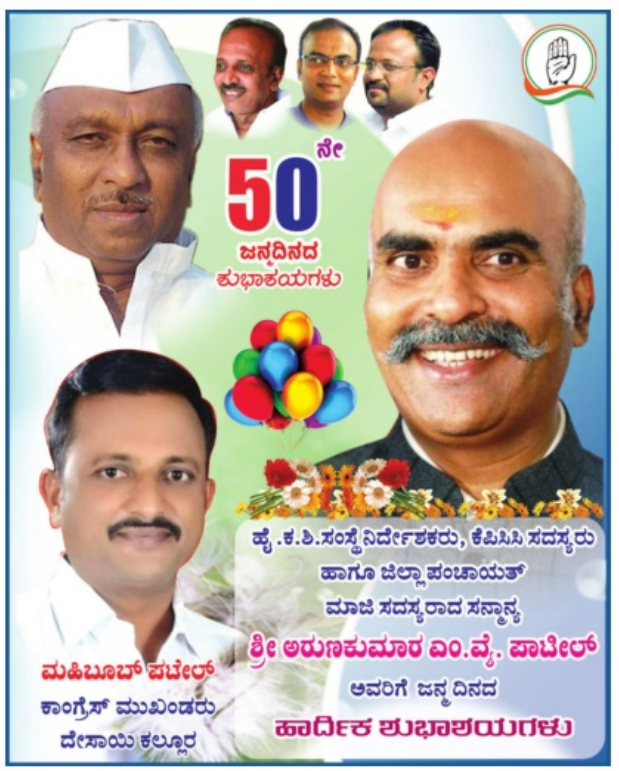
The registration procedure for the board exams in 2024 for private students began on September 12 on its official website, cbse.gov.in. Students can proceed with registration upon the release of the form. The deadline to submit the registration form is October 11, and students can submit the form until October 19, with a late fee of Rs 300 per subject.

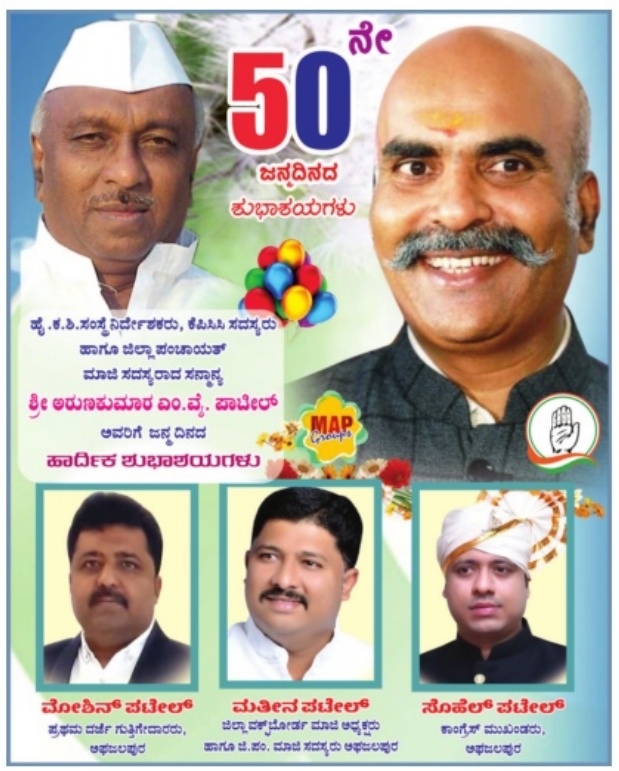
## AICTE tells engineering colleges to spread awareness

Technical education regulator AICTE has directed engineering colleges and technology institutions to create awareness about the impact of population explosions while noting that a rapidly increasing population may lead to food insecurity and social and political instability. The AICTE has said that the country is facing challenges of population explosion and that resources like land, food, water, and energy are limited. It has asked affiliated institutes to conduct various activities, including seminars and symposiums, on the effects of population growth.

"As responsible citizens, we must understand that our country is facing the challenges of population explosion. As all the resources like land, food, water, and energy are limited, a rapidly increasing population may lead to food insecurity, water and land scarcity, loss of biodiversity, increased pollution levels, and social and political instability," the AICTE said in a communication to the vice chancellors of technical universities and heads of institutions.

"All AICTE-approved institutions and universities are requested to create awareness and to organise seminars and workshops on the bad effects of population growth," it added.



# Cycle to work, make it happen

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spread across 1 km and they run shuttle service, and this could be replaced with shared cycles. As of now, people either have to wait for the shuttle buses or walk. Additionally, cycle lanes within the tech parks could be helpful. Either the number of walking paths can be doubled or a small cycle lane can be created on the main way," said Tandava Poppuri, an IT employee.

Cyclists also noted that without lanes or with them constantly disappearing, it becomes hard for them to commute to work even within short distances.

Another daily cyclist told BM after repeated efforts over the years, they have managed to get some facilities implemented but they are limited to their company alone. A dedicated infrastructure is not being provided by the tech parks. "We have been working for several years on this. We have 100-plus cyclists commuting to work. We have dedicated lockers and showers for cyclists and parking for 100-plus cycles. But all these facilities are limited to my company alone but it would be more beneficial for tech parks to build such dedicated infrastructure. It would be great to have cycling lanes within the campus itself," said Karthik Ranganathan, an IT employee.

Bengaluru Bicycle Mayor Sathya Sankaran told BM that most people assume that a major portion of last-mile connectivity can only be covered by bus or auto rickshaws. "We recently found in the Private2public survey, that more than 50 per cent of people live within three kilometres of metro stations, a distance that can easily be met by cycling.

The cost of buses and auto rickshaws can be sometimes higher than the metro ticket. Walking is only feasible for up to 500m. Companies need to look at cycling as a mode of transport to meet that 3 km and talk with BMRCL to establish more cycle parking infra. We are also looking at whether companies are willing to keep shared cycles within their campuses. Instead of keeping shuttle cabs, they can be replaced with provision of shared cycles."

# Concrete or steel? Where is the elevated corridor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Department was prepared five months ago for the year 2022-23.

The proposed corridor is expected to facilitate two-way traffic on JC Road. As of now, the JC Road is one-way (from Minerva Circle to Town Hall). With the elevated corridor, motorists can commute towards Minerva Circle on JC Road.

However, motorists are not ready to take the nine-month deadline to complete construction work seriously. They said neither the BBMP nor the Urban Development Department is serious about commencing the work. "The proposal has been pending for quite a long time. The elevated corridor would be a boon for motorists who have to commute long distances to reach Minerva Circle or South Bengaluru from Hudson Circle," said Mahalingam S, an auto rickshaw driver. Expressing concern over the delay, Kumar N, a two-wheeler rider, said motorists find it tough to commute on JC Road due to traffic jams during peak hours. "The corridor will be a boon for motorists who commute from South Bengaluru to Central Business District (CBD) and other areas," said Kumar.

BBMP Chief Engineer (Projects) Lokesh said the tender process would begin soon. "The Deputy Chief Minister has told us to take up the construction. The tender will be floated inviting bidders for the construction of elevated corridor soon," said Lokesh.

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## personal

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I/WE** SHANMUKHA BANKAPUR & SWETHA SHANMUKHA BANKAPUR Parents of VARUN SHANMUKHA BANKAPUR R/O No. 301 Siri Opera 1st Cross Munireddy Layout Chikkalasandra Bangalore 560061 have changed our son's name as VARUN BANKAPUR vide Affidavit dated 13/09/2023 before Notary S N MADHU Bangalore.

**I,SRIDHAR** Manyam Balasubramaniyan S/o Balasubramaniyan Manyam Bangaruachari R/o 167, 2nd Main Road, 3rd C Cross, Domlur Layout, B'luru-560071 have changed my name to Sridhar Manniam Balasubramaniyan affidavit Dt.26/09/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

**I,** Renu Doshi, W/O Pradeep Doshi, R/O 623, 62nd cross, 5th block, Rajajinagar-560010 have changed my name to Renu Pradeep Doshi for all purposes

**I** SHANMUKHA BANKAPUR SUBHASHCHANDRA R/O No. 301 SIRI OPERA 1st Cross Munireddy Layout chikkalasandra Bangalore 560061 have changed my name as SHANMUKHA BANKAPUR vide Affidavit dated 13/09/2023 before Notary S N MADHU Bangalore.

**I,** Kavitha Devakumar Rallapalli R/o.1516, 6th Cross, 9th B Main Road, Srinivasa Nagar, Bangalore-560050 have changed my name to Kavitha Shankar Naidu Edavalapati vide affidavit dt:23/09/2023 before notary BKR Krishnamurthy, BLR

**I** Satyanarayan D Rao S/o M N Dhruva Rao R/o Sobha Forest View Apart, No.1011, Oak Block 1, 100 ft Road, Lingadeeranahalli, BSK 6 stage, Bangalore: 560060 has changed my name from Sathyanarayana Dhruva Rao to Satyanarayan D Rao for all future purposes

**I** ROOPA RAJIVALOCHANA THIRUMALAI R/O NO. 34/12 38TH A Cross 8TH Block Jayanagar Bangalore 560082 have changed my name as ROOPA THIRUMALAI vide Affidavit dated 25/09/2023 before Notary PUTTARAMAIAH Bangalore.

**I** SWETHA BANKAPUR R/O No. 301 SIRI OPERA 1st Cross Munireddy Layout chikkalasandra Bangalore 560061 have changed my name as SWETHA SHANMUKHA BANKAPUR vide Affidavit dated 13/09/2023 before Notary S N MADHU Bangalore.

**I,** Ankita Doshi, D/O Pradeep Doshi, R/O 623, 62nd cross, 5th block, Rajajinagar-560010 have changed my name to Ankita Pradeepkumar Doshi for all purposes

**I** Punith Gowda.M R/o Dabbe - ghatta at post, Dabbeghatta Hobli, Turuvekere taluk, Tumakuru 572227 have changed my name to Puneeth Gowda.M for all purposes.

**I,** Rasheeda Tarannum R/o No. 45/2, Flat 2, S.R. Complex, 8th 'A' Cross, Kankanagar, Sultanpalya Main Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560032 have changed my daughter name (minor) from Syed Sidrah to Syeda Sidrah.

**I,** Shamsudeen Mohammed Sirajudeen S/o Mohammed Sirajudeen R/o A3-03103 Sobha Dream Acres Balagere Village Panathur,Bengaluru-560087, Karnataka have changed my na me to Shamsudeen Sirajudeen

**I,** Vasu Vimleshkumar Gandhi S/o, Vimleshkumar Babulal Gandhi R/o 105 Saritha Ambience, Munnekollal, Marathahalli - 560037 have changed my name to Vasu Gandhi for all purposes.

**I** Shweta Sinha D/O, Dr. Shravan Kumar Sinha R/o Kethana Orchids Flat 307 Block A. Silver Spring Road Munnekolala Marathahalli Bangalore 560037 have changed my name to Shweta.

**I,** FATHIMASHAH FATHIMA w/o Nadir Shah R/o Baith AL Aysha, Hidayath Bazar, Uppala, Kasaragod, Kerala, 671322 have changed my name to FATHIMA SHAH affidavit Dt.26/09/2023 notary Harisha G, Bengaluru, Present my camp at Bengaluru

**I** Karthikeyan Sv S/O,SV. Svalingam Chettiar R/o #101,1st Floor, Bharat Residency,5th Main,9th Block, Nagarbhavi Bangalore 560072 have changed my name to Karthikeyan Sivalingam Affidavit dt 26.09.2023

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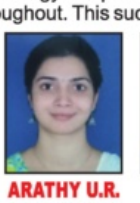

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# FOREIGN BODY

## Stopping immune attacks could make implants like pacemakers safer, longer-lasting

Biomedical implants – such as pacemakers, breast implants and orthopaedic hardware like screws and plates to replace broken bones – have improved patient outcomes across a wide range of diseases. However, many implants fail because the body rejects them, and they need to be removed because they no longer function and can cause pain or discomfort.

An immune reaction called the foreign body response – where the body encapsulates the implant in sometimes painful scar tissue – is a key driver of implant rejection. Developing treatments that target the mechanisms driving foreign body responses could improve the design and safety of biomedical implants.

I am a biomedical engineer who studies why the body forms scar tissue around medical devices. Along with my colleagues Dharshan Sivaraj, Jagan Padmanabhan and Geoffrey Gurtner, we wanted to learn more about what causes foreign body responses. In our research, recently published in the journal Nature Biomedical Engineering, we identified a gene that appears to drive this reaction because of the increased stress implants put on the tissues surrounding them.

### Mechanics of implant rejection

Researchers hypothesise that foreign body responses are triggered by the chemical and material composition of the implant. Just as a person can tell the difference between touching something soft like a pillow versus something hard like a table, cells can tell when there are changes to the softness or stiffness of the tissues surrounding them as a result of an implant.

The increased mechanical stress on those cells sends a signal to the immune system that there is a foreign body present. Immune cells activated by mechanical pressure respond by building a capsule made of scar tissue around the implant in an attempt to shield it off. The more severe the immune reaction, the thicker the capsule. This protects the body from getting an infection from injuries like a splinter in your finger.

All biomedical implants cause some level of foreign body response and are surrounded by at least a small capsule. Some people have very strong reactions that result in a large, thick capsule that constricts around the implant, impeding its function and causing pain. Between 10% to 30% of implants need to be removed because of this scar tissue. For example, a neurostimulator could trigger the formation of a dense capsule of scar tissue that inhibits electrical stimulation from properly reaching the nervous system.

To understand why the immune systems of some people build thick capsules around implants while others do not, we gathered capsule samples from 20 patients whose breast implants were removed – 10 who had severe reactions, and 10 who had mild reactions. By genetically analyzing the samples, we found that a gene called RAC2 was highly expressed in samples taken from patients with severe reactions but not in those with mild reactions. This gene is found only in immune cells, and it codes for a member of a family of proteins involved in cell growth and structure.

Because this protein seemed to be linked to a lot of the downstream reactions that lead to foreign body responses, we decided to explore how RAC2 affects the formation of capsules. We found that immune cells activate RAC2 along with other proteins in response to mechanical stress from implants. These proteins summon additional immune cells to the area that combine into a massive clump to attack a large invader. These combined cells spit out fibrous proteins like collagen that form scar tissue.

To confirm RAC2's role in foreign body responses, we artificially stimulated the mechanical signaling proteins surrounding silicone implants surgically placed in mice. This stimulation produced a severe and humanlike foreign body response in the mice. In contrast, blocking RAC2 resulted in an up to threefold reduction in foreign body responses.

These findings suggest that activating mechanical stress pathways triggers immune cells with RAC2 to generate severe foreign body responses. Blocking RAC2 in immune cells may significantly reduce this reaction.

### Developing new treatments

Implant failure is conventionally treated by using biocompatible materials that the body can better tolerate, such as certain polymers. These don't completely remove the risk of foreign body reactions, however.

My colleagues and I believe that treatments that target the pathways associated with RAC2 could potentially mitigate or prevent free body responses. Heading off this reaction would help improve the effectiveness and safety of medical implants.

Because only immune cells express RAC2, a drug designed to block only that gene would theoretically target only immune cells without affecting other cells in the body. Such a drug could also be administered via injection or even coated onto an implant to minimize side effects.

A complete understanding of the molecular mechanisms driving foreign body responses would be the final frontier in developing truly bio-integrative medical devices that could integrate with the body with no problems for the recipient's entire life span.

*(By Kellen Chen, University of Arizona, The Conversation)*

MIRRORLIGHTS

## People with substance use disorder may have common brain network: Study

A common brain network likely exists among people addicted to nicotine, alcohol, cocaine or heroin, finds a study.

The findings, published in Nature Mental Health, suggests a potential brain circuit to target with neurostimulation therapies.

"Our study found that different brain regions implicated in addiction are all a part of a common brain circuit," said Michael Fox, from the Center for Brain Circuit Therapeutics at Brigham and Women's Hospital in the US.

The team evaluated data from across more than 144 studies of addiction, involving more than 9,000 participants. Within each of those studies, different brain regions were noted as a place to target to treat addiction.

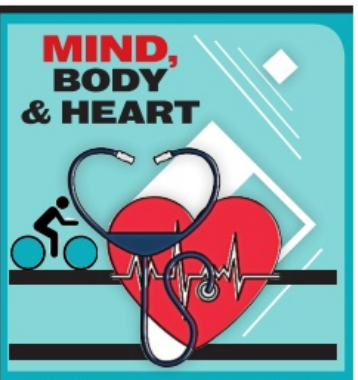
They found abnormalities across substance use disorders mapped to a common brain network across substances and lesion locations.

"Consistency across different papers means we now have a brain circuit to target addiction with treatments, rather than just a region," Fox said.

"The best potential targets were unclear because of how many different abnormalities have been found across those previous studies," Stubbs said.

Researchers used a network mapping approach with an average wiring diagram to find the link between the different types of brain imaging lesions that affect addiction. It also looked at different substances and found the network was common, whether someone was addicted to nicotine, alcohol, cocaine or heroin.

One limitation to the study is because the data came from previous studies and the findings are correlative, the authors could not conclude causation. — IANS




## All you need to know about...

*Benefits of black coffee*

**Makes Your Heart Stronger**
One of the Black coffee benefits includes antioxidants and helps in keeping your blood pressure in check. A few studies also claim that if you regularly consume one or two cups of coffee every day, your risk of developing heart-related ailments reduces.

**Boosts Your Memory**
Black coffee is believed to have great properties that help in improving your memory over time. It also helps in keeping memory-related diseases at bay.

**Alzheimer's Disease Prevention**
Alzheimer's disease primarily affects the elderly, usually those over the age of 65. One of the black coffee benefits may help to lower the risk of Alzheimer's disease.

**Reduced risk of cancer**
According to some studies, coffee may help reduce the risk of developing certain cancers such as liver cancer, colon cancer, and breast cancer. Coffee aids in the reduction of internal inflammation.

**Diabetes Management**
Many studies suggest that drinking black coffee can help you effectively combat diabetes risk. Coffee may help to increase insulin production in the body, which may help to regulate blood glucose levels.

**Beneficial For Liver Health**
The liver is a vital organ that is essential to keep our bodies healthy. Black coffee benefit include the reduction of harmful liver enzymes found in the blood. According to some studies, coffee may help reduce the risk of liver cancer, fatty liver disease, hepatitis, and liver cirrhosis.

**Keeps Stomach Clean**
Since coffee is a diuretic drink, the more your drink, the more you'll pee, as it flushes the bacteria and toxins out of the body. This helps keep your stomach clean and healthy. —Femina

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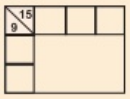
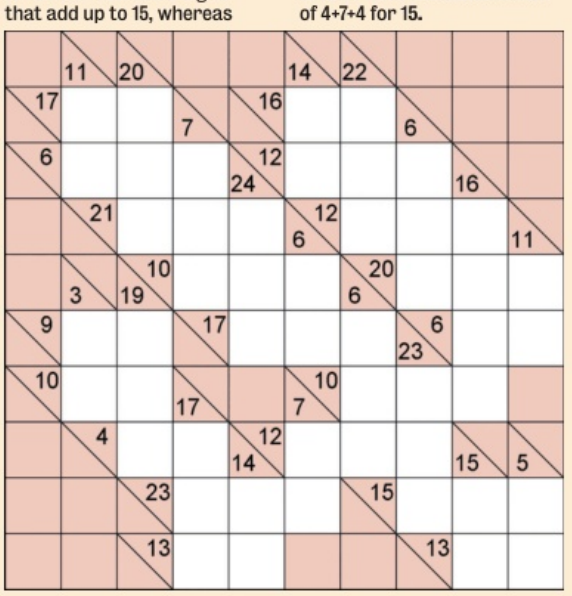
## Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

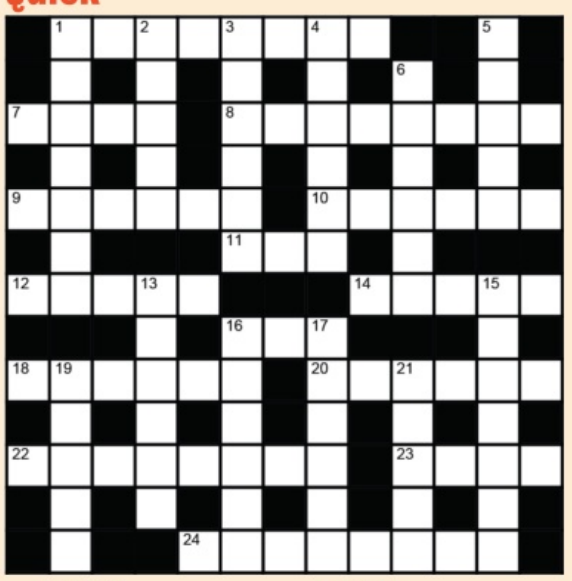



for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

1 Harsh-sounding (8)
7 You too in Latin (2,2)
8 Proclaim (8)
9 Elicited, evinced or extracted (6)
10 Bird house (6)
11 Above sea level (3)
12 A visual display of information (5)
14 Peach ___ : ice-cream and fruit dessert? (5)
16 Storage container (3)
18 The elephants for the Mysore Dussehra were trained at this camp (6)
20 Out of sight, out __ ___? (2,4)
22 Hooked (8)
23 Subsequently (4)
24 Wraiths (8)

**DOWN**

1 Recovered from? (3,4)
2 Torso (5)
3 Kampala is its capital (6)
4 Yearly (6)
5 Happen again (5)
6 Lying on the back (6)
13 Tranquil (6)
15 Golf course hazards (7)
16 Be quiet, slang usage? (4,2)
17 Scandinavian–"in cord" anagram? (6)
19 Reversed (5)
21 Rhythm in music (5)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: P EQUALS G**

GX BEDYGQYKOXGYF GJQSXD QZ GYYQPGXTB ON RYBNBXD OX GXF TWGOJ QZ VGUOXP MBBX DVB ZOYND OX OXUBX-DOXP NQJBDVOXP.

## Linemaro

I would enjoy a road trip with you

## Mindchow

Be tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic to the striving and tolerant of the week and strong because someday you will have been all of these

## Joke of the day

When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble

## Loop

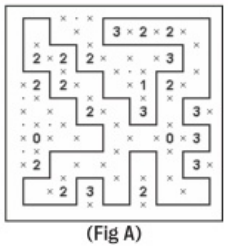
**Rules**

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

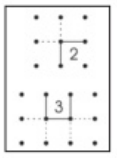
**How to begin:**

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

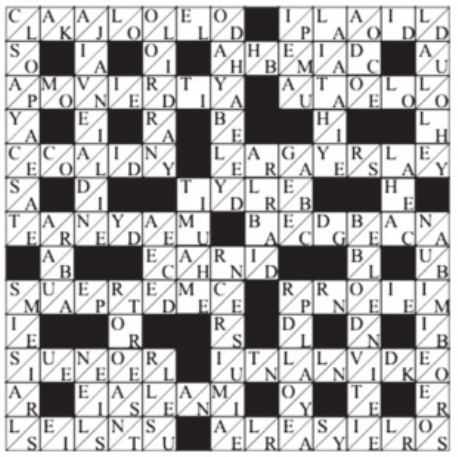


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

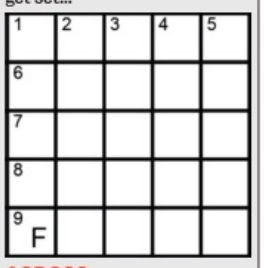
## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...




**ACROSS**

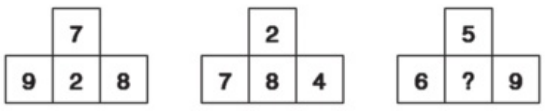
1 Set HC; 6 En Che; 7 Lutra; 8 Leafs; 9 Gofer

**DOWN**

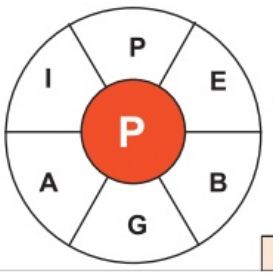
1 H cuff; 2 O Hell; 3 Treen; 4 Crags; 5 Setae

## Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?




## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

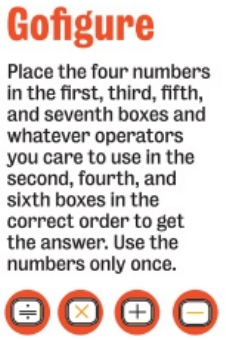
## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 5 | | | | | | 1 | |
| 3 | | | 5 | | | 6 | | |
| 4 | 2 | | | 8 | 7 | | | 9 |
| | 3 | | | 7 | 5 | | | 1 |
| | | | | 4 | | | | |
| 2 | | | 6 | 9 | | | 5 | |
| 8 | | | 7 | 3 | | | 4 | 5 |
| | | 4 | | | 6 | | | 8 |
| | 1 | | | | | | 6 | |

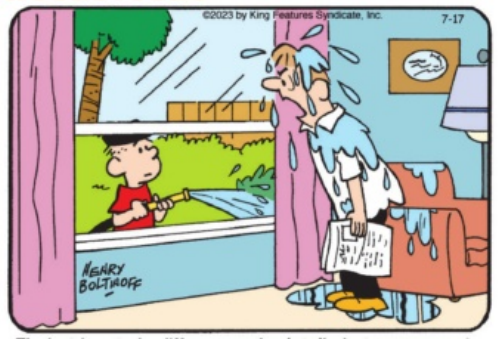
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

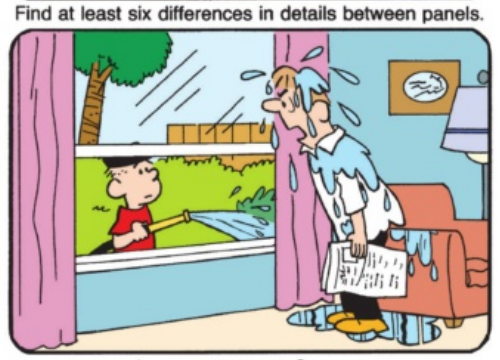
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.




## Hocusfocus




Find at least six differences in details between panels.



**Differences:** 1. Boy's arm and hand are not showing. 2. Wet spot on chair is missing. 3. Newspaper is longer. 4. Bottom of chair is different. 5. Sleeve is longer. 6. Mouth is not open as wide.

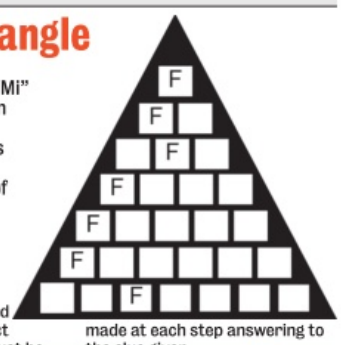
## Riddler

The following words have a similar characteristic. Can you tell me what that is, apart from the fact that they are all nouns?

1. Case, 2. Keeper, 3. Maker, 4. Plate, 5. Seller, 6. Mark, 7. Store

## Alpha triangle

1 Farad, abbr.
2 A note to follow "Mi"
3 Nautical direction
4 Doom
5 Accomplishments
6 Skipped meals
7 Gets the better of




Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.


DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

# COMICS

## Redeye by Mel Casson

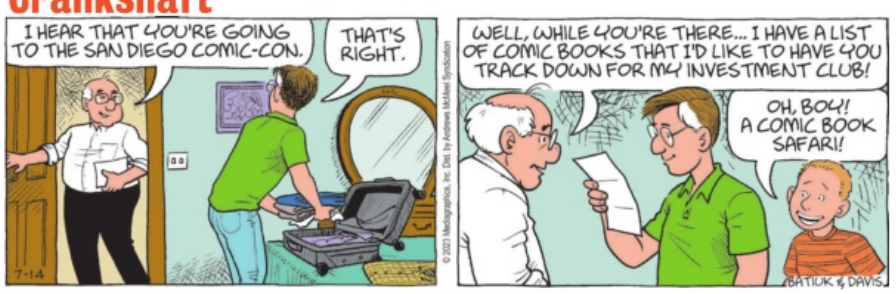
## Bizarrotrip

## Diamond Lil

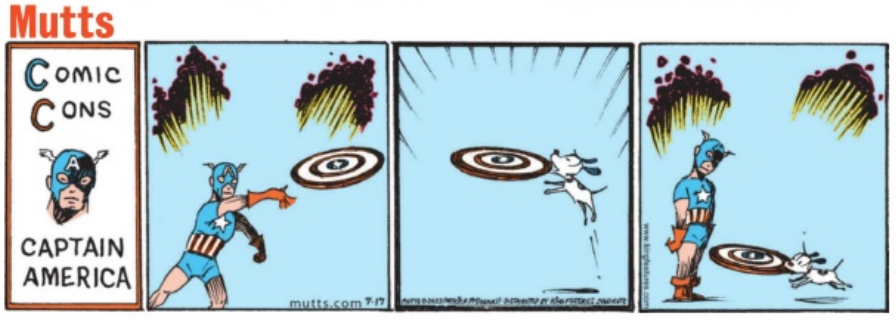
## Hart of the city

WHY'D YOU HAVE TO OPEN YOUR BIG MOUTH AND SAY THAT KAT WAS WEIRD-LOOKING?
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? THEY'RE LOSERS.
YOU USED TO MAKE FUN OF THEM TOO!
YEAH, WELL...
I CONTAIN MULTITUDES.

## Crankshaft


I HEAR THAT YOU'RE GOING TO THE SAN DIEGO COMIC-CON.
THAT'S RIGHT.
WELL, WHILE YOU'RE THERE... I HAVE A LIST OF COMIC BOOKS THAT I'D LIKE TO HAVE YOU TRACK DOWN FOR MY INVESTMENT CLUB!
OH, BOY! A COMIC BOOK SAFARI!
7-14

## Mutts




# WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you will likely be busy with the kids' education and career. You may hear some good news in terms of kids' academics. But love birds are advised to keep patience in terms of their relationships. Investors are advised to avoid investing in risky assets, as they might convert into losses. It is recommended to do meditation, yoga or chanting some mantras to come out of this typical situation.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you will be a victim of dissatisfaction; you may not get the result of your hard work, it may be disappointment, and it may make you upset. You are advised to read documents carefully before signing a contract or paper. Investment in the assets may also be possible. You are advised to follow your intuition before investing in the fixed assets. Overwork may affect your domestic life; you will arrive late for family or social events.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be busy with social get-togethers and family occasions. It may increase your network. You may also plan for a work-related short travel. Disputes between siblings or friends may be resolved now. Your colleagues may cooperate with you to complete a difficult project. You are likely to complete all the tasks with self-confidence. You are advised to keep patience while interacting with any person.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may implement some new plans into your family business; it will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. You may also be busy with family or social get-togethers. You may spend on buying some creative or artefact to renovate your house, which may increase your social status. Today, you may be careful with teeth, ears, eyes, nose and skin issues.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. Happiness may be around you; it can help you enjoy your daily work. Your vital power may help you make tough decisions, which will increase your profits soon. You may plan for a work-related short trip. Colleagues may support you to complete your work on time. Students may find more focus in their studies. You are advised to control your eating habits to avoid stomach issues.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may feel dull; sleeplessness may also affect your mental and physical health. You may also be upset due to the health issues of your family member. Your expenditure on worthless stuff may affect your savings. You may be a victim of conspiracy, so you are advised to keep an eye on your opponents.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, your past investments may give you good profits. You may get good results after an easy work. Your obstacles may go off now. Your financial status may be improved now, and new sources of income may be there. Couples may hear good news in terms of kids. You may get success easily after a little effort.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are likely to meet someone, and with the help of a person, you may expect positive growth in your business or work. Your destiny may help you, and your losses now convert into profits. Financial health may be on track now. Love birds are advised to make some important decisions in terms of marriage. Singles may likely find their soul mate.

**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, situations are under control. You are blessed by Jupiter today; you may expect to get some important position or post in the office. You may inclined towards religion and mythological facts. You may feel yourself stronger in thoughts. It may make you confident in your way of working. You may also plan for an overseas tour.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel unhappy and dull; it affects your way of working, and there may be some delays in your projects to be completed. It may affect your prestige in your professional and domestic life. It is advised to avoid adventure tours or rush driving. Love birds may have some breakup. Job seekers may be disappointed in terms of new jobs.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may perform your best in the office. You may have a good bond with the boss. You may get some new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Chronic health issues may be cured now. You may get good incentives for your work also. Disputes with the siblings may be resolved now. Job seekers may find a new job.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel healthy, and your old diseases may be cured now. You may hear some good news from your near relative. You may perform well in the office; your colleague may help you in any critical project. You may develop faith in your subordinate staff. It may increase your prestige in society. You may also hear good news in some legal matters.

## KIDZONE

Rahul J,
13 Years,
Indiranagar
Cambridge
School

Akash N,
13 Years,
Indiranagar
Cambridge
School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

# SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**
(-33²9)/9²4-18
-33²4-18
-132-18
= -150

**BULL'S EYE**
BAGPIPE, page, pipe

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | H | E | S | T |
| H | E | N | C | E |
| U | L | T | R | A |
| F | L | E | A | S |
| F | O | R | G | E |

**QUOTE UNCODE**
An extraordinary amount of arrogance is present in any claim of having been the first in inventing something.

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | I | L | T | S | ■ | E | R | R | A | S | E | R | S | ■ |
| A | ■ | I | S | L | A | M | ■ | Y | ■ | T | ■ | R | ■ | ■ |
| S | E | N | O | R | ■ | U | N | A | L | I | K | E | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | I | ■ | O | ■ | S | ■ | L | ■ | N | ■ | B | ■ | ■ |
| S | U | P | R | E | M | E | ■ | P | R | O | ■ | E | M | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | B | ■ | C | A | R | D | ■ | ■ | B | ■ | U | ■ | ■ |
| T | A | N | D | E | M | ■ | A | E | G | E | A | N | ■ | ■ |
| A | ■ | I | ■ | I | D | L | E | ■ | ■ | E | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| C | O | L | I | N | ■ | E | A | G | E | R | L | Y | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | Y | ■ | A | ■ | B | ■ | H | ■ | ■ | ■ | L | ■ | ■ |
| P | O | V | E | R | T | Y | ■ | A | T | O | L | L | ■ | ■ |
| O | ■ | A | ■ | O | ■ | A | H | E | A | D | ■ | U | ■ | ■ |
| C | A | J | O | L | E | D | ■ | P | L | A | I | D | ■ | ■ |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ■ | ■ | ■ | S | P | E | C | T | R | E | S | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | D | ■ | U | ■ | I | ■ | E | ■ | R | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | D | D | I | C | T | E | D | ■ | T | H | E | N | ■ | ■ |
| D | U | B | A | R | E | ■ | O | F | M | I | N | D | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | L | ■ | B | I | N | ■ | U | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| G | R | A | P | H | ■ | M | E | L | B | A | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | E | ■ | A | S | L | ■ | N | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| E | V | O | K | E | D | ■ | A | V | I | A | R | Y | ■ | ■ |
| ■ | ■ | O | ■ | N | ■ | U | ■ | P | ■ | U | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| E | T | U | ■ | A | N | O | U | N | C | E | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| O | R | ■ | G | ■ | N | ■ | S | ■ | E | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |

**MENSA PUZZLE**
4: 6 × 9 = 54 (reading down the middle two blocks)

**RIDDLER**
By adding the noun "book" in front of them you form a new noun.
1. Bookcase,
2. Bookkeeper,
3. Bookmaker,
4. Bookplate,
5. Bookseller,
6. Bookmark,
7. Bookstore

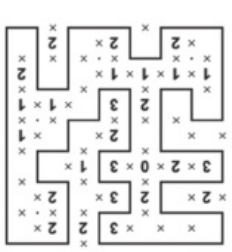
**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| 3 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 9 |
| 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 6 |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 3 |
| 8 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| 5 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 9 | 8 |
| 9 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 2 |

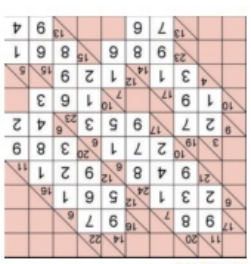
**ALPHA TRIANGLE**
F, FA, AFI, FATE, FEATS, FASTED, DEFEATS.

**GO FIGURE**
Easy
5 + 7 + 2 − 5 = 9
Medium
5 − 3 × 7 × 3 = 42
Hard
7 − 7 + 7 × 2 = 14

**LOOP**



**KAKURO**



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**# Greatest of all**
Waheeda Rehman, who made her debut 68 years ago and went on to act in cult classics such as "Pyaasa" and "Guide", was on Tuesday named recipient of the Dadasaheb Phalke Award

# 'Happy with my life'

## Kangana has no plans to start new career

Kangana Ranaut has cemented her position in the film industry with films like Gangster, Queen, Tanu Weds Manu franchise, Manikarnika: The Queen of Jhansi etc. While on one side she is a stupendous actress, on the other, she is also known to not hold back when it comes to voicing her thoughts about the politics of the country, which has, time and again got her into controversies

Many believe that she does all this, as she aims to get into politics like Vijayashanti, Roja, Kushbhu, and late J Jayalalithaa. The actress is currently on promotional tour of her upcoming film Chandramukhi 2 opposite actor-director Raghava Lawrence.

At the recent media interaction, she addressed this question and said, "I am generally an aware and responsible person. A lot of people say that I say and do things to get into politics. That's not true. I am a pakka desh bhakt (patriot). There's no ulterior motive to this. I am happy with my life now, and I have worked hard to get here. I don't know if I want to start a new career from scratch." Chandramukhi 2 also marks Kangana's return to Tamil Cinema, she has earlier done films like Dhaam Dhoom and Thalaivii. She said, "I am happy all three have been good. Especially, Chandramukhi 2 because I haven't done such a colourful film with elements like drama, fights, and songs. It is also a high point in my career to work with Raghava Lawrence sir, who made me so comfortable on the sets." After Chandramukhi 2, Kangana will be seen in her long-stranded film Tejas where she plays India's first female fighter jet pilot. **— ETimes**

# Drew plans to resume talk show

Actor Drew Barrymore is planning to bring back her talk show after strike-related backlash, reported People.

Following the news of the Writers Guild of America (WGA) and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers' (AMPTP) reaching a tentative deal, effectively ending the ongoing strike, People has learned that Barrymore's show is hoping to return in October.

Just two weeks after receiving criticism for saying production would begin despite the then-ongoing writers' strike, Barrymore's daytime sitcom is back. Barrymore, 48, previously stated on Instagram that her show was "in compliance with not discussing or promoting film and television that is struck of any kind."

"I own this choice," she affirmed.

"I want to be there to provide what writers do so well, which is a way to bring us together or help us make sense of the human experience," she explained. "I hope for a resolve for everyone as soon as possible. We have navigated difficult times since we first came on air.

And so I take a step forward to start season 4 once again with an astute humility," according to People. **—IANS**

# Friends get to meet up when East meets West

Actresses Rasika Dugal and Richa Moorjani recently met at the Chicago South Asian Film Festival (CSAFF) 2023, as part of its 'East Meets West' panel.

Rasika Dugal said that this moment felt like a personal victory to her. Penning a note on her Instagram with a picture of Richa Moorjani by her side, Rasika wrote: "So much to talk about... and laugh about with @richamoorjani @samratsee @aparshakti_khurana... chatting and comparing notes on our journeys."

She added: "So happy to see the mainstream work that South Asian actors are now doing. It felt like a personal victory to see @richamoorjani surrounded by an enthusiastic gang of #NeverHaveIEver fans!"

She wrote: "Someone cast all of us together! Thank you @csaffestival for bringing us together for the ' East meets West' panel." As Indian cinema is making its way around the world and making its imprint felt throughout the world, the Chicago South Asian Film Festival 2023 was a celebration of the rising power of India entertainment. **— IANS**

# Producer Taapsee

Taapsee Pannu is one of those rare actresses who has turned producer in the movie business. She turned producer first with Blurr where she also played the lead role but the film was released on OTT, where it got mixed reviews. She is now gearing up for her first theatrical release as a producer, with Dhak Dhak which stars names like Ratna Pathak Shah, Fatima Sana Shaikh, Dia Mirza and Sanjana Sanghi.

The film is scheduled to release on 13th October. The film is a heartwarming story of four women at different stages of their life who take a life-changing journey on bikes to the highest motorable pass in the world. The film promises a never seen before visual experience on screen. The film has been directed by debutant director Tarun Dudeja and the script has been co-written by Parijat Joshi. The makers are going to kick start the promotions of the film this week, while the trailer of the film will be launched on October 3. **— ETimes**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

# Ronnie, the lucky one?

Dharma Keerthiraj is among actors who have been trying their best to establish themselves as the most sought after in Sandalwood. Dharma has been associated with Sandalwood since 2008. He has played the lead and important roles in some movies before, but those did not bring him any cheer as they failed to have a positive impact on the box office. He is looking forward to his latest movie Ronnie that is scheduled for release shortly.

"I have been putting in all my effort. I played the lead in more than five to six movies. I am unhappy because some of my movies were not successful at the box office. I am pinning my hopes on it because I worked hard," said Dharma Keerthiraj.

Director Kiran RK said Ronnie is his second movie as a director. Prior to this, Kiran handled the megaphone for Kotti Paise that was released in October 2018.

"I am confident of the success of Ronnie at the box office. I am sure Dharma Keerthiraj will become famous through this movie because his character in the movie is stylish and subtle. The movie belongs to a different genre. It is a murder mystery. It revolves around a heist of Rs 30 crore and a few murders," says Kiran.

The ensemble of cast includes Tilak Shekar, Ritvi Patel, Raghu Pandeshwar, Bala Rajwadi and others.

# Editor to director

Manjunatha B Nagba is on Cloud nine ever since the shoot of his maiden Kannada movie got over. Manjunath, a fine arts student who has worked as an online editor for Kannada movies, turns a director and hero with this film. He plays the lead in Garuda Purana besides working as director and editor.

A function was held for the release of Garuda Purana's teaser at MMB Legacy on Monday. Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar released the teaser and wished the cast and crew all the best. "I worked as an online editor for 18 Kannada movies. I also worked for Kantara which brought me name and fame. I am grateful to Rishab Shetty for giving me an opportunity to work for Kantara. Garuda Purana is a suspense thriller. The theme of the movie is those who committed crime must be punished," said Manjunatha.

He said the movie is ready for release and he wanted to thank Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar for releasing its teaser.

He said that he has acted in around 40 plays organised by Trinetra Ranga Thanda. "My experience in theater helped me face the camera easily," he said.